

Table 7. Cancer Data for White and Minority Women: Available Sources and Needs

	SEER Program Data Coverage ^a	Other Sources of Population-Based Cancer Data	Key Issues and Concerns
White	24.5%	NAACR (publication "Cancer in North America")	NA
Mexican American	43.7% for all Hispanics; absolute figures now available for Mexican Americans (2000); age-adjusted data not reported separately	NAACR (publication "Cancer in North America")	No single source of reliable data on cancer rates, mortality, or survival for Mexican American women. Difficult to describe incidence and mortality trends because of old data and their limitations, and lack of age-specific denominators.
Puerto Rican	43.7% for all Hispanics, but not reported separately for Puerto Ricans; absolute figures now available for Puerto Ricans (2000); age-adjusted data not reported separately	Central Cancer Registry; Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Health Department (residents); NAACR (publication "Cancer in North America")	No single source of reliable cancer data for Puerto Rican women. Difficult to describe U.S. mainland/Puerto Rican cancer statistics. Tracking locations and generations would be informative.
Cuban American	43.7% for all Hispanics; absolute figures now available for Cuban Americans (2000); age-adjusted data not reported separately	Florida Cancer Data System; NAACR (publication "Cancer in North America")	No single source of reliable cancer data for Cuban American women. Cannot disaggregate from national SEER Program data; limited geographical scope.
African American	23.3%	NAACR (publication "Cancer in North America")	Stratification by socioeconomic status would help untangle synergistic effects of race, low education, and poverty.
Asian American	74.8% Japanese; 72.7% Filipino; 55.5% Chinese; other ethnic groups unknown	NAACR (publication "Cancer in North America")	Need to disaggregate groups from different countries of origin; insufficient numbers for smaller subgroups.
Native Hawaiian	95% within Hawaii; estimated 75% nationally because of migration from Hawaii	NA	New Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander census category an improvement, but combines both groups. Difficulty estimating denominators; small number of cases of some cancers; geographical limitation; high rate of mixed race complicates interpretation of data.

American Samoan	NA; 69.5% of American Samoan cancer cases in Los Angeles and Hawaii SEER Registries	American Samoa Tumor Registry until 1991; South Pacific Commission summary report (1985)	Incomplete data. Small numbers make calculation of rates difficult. Data lack denominators; American Samoans are not a unique group in U.S. census.
American Indian	41.8% American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut combined	Indian Health Service clinic health surveillance tracking programs; NAACR (publication "Cancer in North America")	Need to disaggregate American Indians and Alaska Natives. Limited geographical scope; information on combined tribes a concern. Insufficient numbers for drawing conclusions.
Alaska Native	41.8% American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut combined (Alaska is a Supplemental Registry since 1984)	Indian Health Service clinic health surveillance tracking programs; NAACR (publication "Cancer in North America")	Need to disaggregate American Indians and Alaska Natives. Limited geographical scope; some racial misclassification; calculation of incidence and mortality rates difficult because of limited number of cases.

^a Based on "Number of Persons by Race for SEER Participants—1990 Census Data," reported at <http://seer.cancer.gov>, May 2001.

Note: SEER Program = Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program; NAACR = North American Association of Central Cancer Registries; NA = not available.